

February 29, 2012

Raised Bill No. 235

**An act concerning Municipal Agents for the Elderly**

Once a formidable advocate for the elderly, the State of Connecticut demonstrated relentless determination and developed the Municipal Agent for the Elderly program.

At its very core, Raised Bill No. 235 proposes to dismantle the very safety net which it had the foresight to champion in 1972. Unfortunately, we have been abandoned by those whom you have entrusted to provide the Municipal Agents with training, mentoring, updated materials and enlightenment. Raised Bill No. 235 addresses the requirement of submitting an annual report. Finger pointing aside, I question the value of such a document if the perusal of such a compilation of information isn't reviewed by legislators, distributed in a timely fashion to Municipal Agents for the Elderly, or disseminated in some way to interested parties, how essential is this document?

It is imperative that our program be shored up with reinforcement such as educational seminars, tools to allow us to stay abreast of changes and continue to be a reflection of legislators and a state which honors its commitment to its elderly citizens.

At the conclusion of this Hearing, I hope that the resounding response to our legislators by your elderly constituents is not as echoed by Caesar, Et tu Brute!

My name is Frances Minor and I am proud to be one of Connecticut's 169 Municipal Agents for the Elderly. I am providing testimony on Raised Bill No. 235 before the Human Services Committee.